

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 146348
ORIGIN OES-07

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DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB:MJB
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB
ARA/AND - MR. SONANDRES
ARA/ECA - MISS WALTERS
ARA/CAR - MR. PIERCE
ARA/CAR - MR. TUMMINIA
EUR/WE - MR. DOBBINS
CNO OP 611 - CDR. JOECKEL
-----064466 240030Z /65

R 231827Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
INFO CNO
NRL WASHDC

UNCLAS STATE 146348

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TBIO, VE, BR, NS, GY, FR, TD

SUBJECT: USNS HAYES CLEARANCE REQUEST, 27 DEC 1977 -
18 JAN 1978

1. USNS HAYES, A PUBLIC VESSEL OPERATED BY THE MILITARY
SEALIFT COMMAND (MSC) AND UNDER THE TECHNICAL DIRECTION OF
THE NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY (NRL) IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT
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BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL RESEARCH OF THE WATER COLUMN AS
WELL AS OCEAN BOTTOM SAMPLING AND ATMOSPHERIC MEASUREMENTS.
THE CRUISE WILL BEGIN AT RECIFE, BRAZIL ON 27 DEC. 1977 AND
PROCEED TO FRENCH GUIANA, SURINAM, GUYANA, TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO, VENEZUELA, AND TERMINATE AT PUERTO RICO ON 18
JANUARY 1978.

2. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CRUISE ARE:

(A) TO COLLECT BOTTOM SEDIMENTS OF MARINE, ESTUARINE AND RIVERINE ORIGIN FOR STUDIES OF THEIR TOXICITY AND MICROBIOLOGY. IT IS PLANNED TO COLLECT SEDIMENTS FROM THE CONTINENTAL SHELVES OF BRAZIL, FRENCH GUIANA, SURINAM, GUYANA, TRINIDAD, AND VENEZUELA AS WELL AS FROM INTERNATIONAL WATERS.

(B) TO STUDY THE MICROBIOLOGY OF THE WATER COLUMN AT SELECTED LOCATIONS, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE CARIACO TRENCH.

(C) TO STUDY MARINE FUNGI AND BACTERIA WHICH DEGRADE HYDROCARBONS OR SUBMERGED WOOD.

(D) TO STUDY THE SENSORY CAPABILITIES OF THE MARINE FAUNA.

(E) TO STUDY INTRINSIC FLUORESCENCE AND FLUORESCENCE INDUCED BY AMINE-CONTAINING OCEANIC MATERIALS AT VARIOUS DEPTHS OF THE OCEAN.

(F) TO MEASURE MARINE AEROSOLS AND THE RELATED AIR-MASS CHARACTERISTICS.

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(G) TO MEASURE THE CHLOROPHYLL CONTENT OF THE SURFACE WATER LAYERS.

(H) TO DETERMINE THE EFFECT OF ULTRAVIOLET B RADIATION ON THE RATE OF PHOTOSYNTHESIS OF PHYTOPLANKTON.

(I) TO MEASURE THE IN-SITU CONCENTRATIONS OF CO, CH₄, CO₂, O₂ AND OTHER DISSOLVED GASES IN THE WATER COLUMN, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE WATERS OF THE CARIACO TRENCH.

3. EQUIPMENT TO BE USED INCLUDES:

SAMPLING - ROSETTE WATER SAMPLER, NISKIN BOTTLES, SALINITY-TEMPERATURE-DEPTH PROFILER, SPECTROPHOTOMETER, GAS CHROMATOGRAPHS, SPECTROFLUORIMETER, CONTACT-ANGLE GONIOMETER, AUTOCLAVE, GRAB SAMPLER, PISTON CORING DEVICE, GRAVITY CORERS, RADON MONITORS, FOG-WATER COLLECTORS, HIGH-VOLUME AIR PUMP, AEROSOL COLLECTORS.

4. (A) SEDIMENT SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN IN AREAS OFFERING CONTRASTING STATES OF POLLUTION. THE AREAS INCLUDE HARBORS, ESTUARIES, AND THE OCEAN FLOOR. SURFACE WATER

SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN ALONG THE CRUISE TRACK AND HYDRO-GRAPHIC CASTS WILL BE TAKEN AT SELECTED SITES. WOODEN FLOTSAM WILL BE COLLECTED FOR STUDIES OF WOOD-DEGRADING FUNGI AND MARINE BORERS. AIR SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN PERIODICALLY.

(B) A SHIP'S TRACK IS BEING POUCHED. DEPT. HAS REQUESTED A MORE DETAILED TRACK FROM NRL, WHICH THEY WILL PROVIDE IN MID-JULY WHEN CHIEF SCIENTIST RETURNS FROM ANOTHER

CRUISE. IT WAS DECIDED TO PROCESS REQUEST EARLY RATHER THAN WAIT FOR BETTER CHART.

5. THE DATA COLLECTED ON THIS CRUISE WILL ENABLE COMPARI-UNCLASSIFIED

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SONS TO BE MADE BETWEEN EARLIER STUDIES IN CONTRASTING GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS. THE SEDIMENT, WATER AND AIR SAMPLING WILL YIELD BASELINE DATA ON POLLUTION. INVESTIGATIONS

OF HYDROCARBON AND WOOD-DEGRADING FUNGI AND BACTERIA ARE ESSENTIAL IN STUDYING OIL SPILLS, MAINTENANCE OF SUB-MERGED TIMBERS, AND STORAGE OF HYDROCARBON FUELS. STUDIES ON MARINE BORERS ARE OF SIMILAR VALUE TO THE MAINTENANCE OF PIERS, WHARVES AND RELATED STRUCTURES. STUDIES OF THE FLUORESCENCE OF SEAWATER RELATE TO THE FACT THAT THE FLUORESCING MATERIALS CAN BE ABSORBED ONTO SUBMERGED SURFACES WHERE THEY MAY ACT AS FOULING PRECURSORS. RESEARCH ON THE EFFECTS OF ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION IS RELATED TO CONCERN FOR ATMOSPHERIC QUALITY AS GOVERNED BY THE OZONE LAYER.

6. ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED. PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE WELCOME AND SHOULD CONTACT THE CHIEF SCIENTIST - DR. DONALD W. STRASBURG, CODE 8350, NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20375.

7. USNS HAYES (T-AGOR-16) HAS A CATAMARAN HULL AND IS 3672 GROSS TONS. SHIP IS 246 FT. LONG, BEAM 75 FT., AND HAS A DRAFT OF 22 FT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS NRLW AND SHIP MONITORS 500 KHZ. CAPTAIN IS LEMAN COUCH WITH A CREW OF 44 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 25.

8. FOR BRASILIA: DEPT. IS POUCHING CURRICULUM VITAES AND A PUBLICATION ON HAYES WHICH INCLUDES A PICTURE AND ALL CHARACTERISTICS OF HAYES. AS STATED PARA 4, A BETTER CHART WILL BE POUCHED IN MID-JULY.

9. PORT CALLS ARE AS FOLLOW AND WILL BE REQUESTED LATER: UNCLASSIFIED

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17-27 DEC 1977 RECIFE, BRAZIL

11-12 JAN 1978 CUMANA, VENEZUELA

15-16 JAN 1978 CUMANA, VENEZUELA

10. ACTION: EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE
FOR USNS HAYES TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
DURING PERIOD 27 DEC. 1977 - 18 JAN 1978. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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